Message Text

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17-12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 AGR-20

COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 /196 W

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R 281706Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1063

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANNA

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CONFIDENTIAL ROME 10415

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR IT YS

SUBJECT: SOUTH YEMEN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS ITALY

REF: ROME 10191

- 1. RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS GIVEN US ACCOUNT OF PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER (MUTIE) YAFAI'S SEPTEMBER 24-26 STOP-OVER IN ROME. ACCORDING SOURCE, YAFAI MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY PEDINI AND OTHER MINISTRY OFFICIALS ON SEPTEMBER 25.
- 2. OFFICIAL SAID THAT POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS WERE VERY GENERAL IN NATURE. ITALIANS EXPRESSED THEIR KEEN INTEREST IN PEACE AND STABILITY IN ARABIAN PENINSULA, AND VIEW THAT UNITY OF TWO YEMENS WAS MATTER TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN PARTIES THEMSELVES. ACCORDING SOURCE, YAFAI, WITHOUT MENTIONING ANY NAMES, ACCUSED SAUDIS OF IMPEDING UNITY. ITALIANS EMPHASIZED THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST WITH SOUTH YEMEN IN REOPENING OF SUEZ CANAL WHICH IN TURN DEPENDED ON SOLUTION OF MID EAST CRISIS.

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3. ON ECONOMIC SIDE, ACCORDING SOURCE, YAFAI MADE PITCH FOR

CONCESSIONAL INTEREST RATE ON ITALIAN CREDITS AND ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF GIFT OF WHEAT. ITALIANS WERE NEGATIVE ON BOTH REQUESTS. SOUTH YEMENIS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ITALIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN SANITATION FIELD AND ITALIANS PROMISED TO LOOK INTO OTHER AID POSSIBILITIES "WITHIN LIMITS OF THEIR CAPABILITIES". SOURCE COMMENTED THAT AID DISCUSSION WAS FROM ITALIAN SIDE A SYMPATHETIC LISTENING EXERCISE WITH NO REPEAT NO COMMITMENTS. VOLPE

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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